

30 YEARS WITH THE ARRL!

MAY 1978

The Hampden County RA first became affiliated with the ARRL in 1948. This is our 30th anniversary! The officers that year were:

President Gilbert Williams WLAPA
Vice-president C. Thayer WLRE
Treasurer Bob Adolphson WLNLE
Secretary Tom Barrett WIKUE

A.S. McLean, WLJO also did a lot of the work getting us affiliated.
HAPPY ANIVERSARY!!!!

We would like to have a plaque made up commemorating past presidents of the club. Our records are almost non-existent. Our club was founded in 1937. The League, through the kindness of Rosalie White, WALSTO, gave us the following information:

1948 Gilbert Williams WLAPA
49-51 Unknown
52 Ken Gurney WLSIT
53 William Blankenship WLRDR
54 Walter Ross WLQUO
55 Tom Barrett WIKUE
56. William Rosner WLRGU

57 unknown
58 Tom Ferguson WLWFL
59 Dick Stevens WLQWJ
60 Norm Forest WLSTR
61 Norm Forest WLSTR
62 Calvin Phillips, WLMMD
63 Same as above
64 Norm Peacor, KLIJU

65 C. Wesley Thayer WLRE
66 Same as above
67 Same as above
68 George Hughes, WLALL
69 Robert Phoenix, WALDNB
70 William Stacey KLANF
71 Paul Caputo, K1PKZ
72 Vin Falardeau, WALGVV
73 Same
74 Walt Nero WALHNN
75-77 Ted Lockwood, WALGZO
78. Jeffrey J. Duquette, K1BE

We need corrections and additions to this list! If there is no interest in honoring our past club presidents, then we won't spend the money. But many of you did know these people and can tell us about the hams who are now silent keys. If you would like to do something nice for them, send the information to: P.O. BOX 346, Southwick, Mass 01077. We need your help!

BROWN BAGGER'S REPORT

By WBLEMB

Meeting place is the Ground Round, just over the North End Bridge in West Springfield at the rotary. Every Friday at noon time until the last story is told or you have to leave.

This month the BB's had a special drawing for a prize donated by the Vernon chapter of the BBs. The prize was a special badge, engraved by a jeweler. The winner was Ted Lockwood, WALGZO. Our waitress Debby has been made an official official BB with the call sign of K1SEX. HI!HI!

Ray, W1DTG has been ill and was visited by Chet, K1YOO and Bert, K1GHL. We understand that Ray is in fine spirits and doing well. Congratulations to WALZKT for his new General. The Zebras, Kangaroos, and Tigers was all smiles. At this month's meeting were K1YOO, K1GHL, W1LFJK, WALUGL, W1NLE, W1NOG, WBLEHS, W1LCJH, Don, WALWXS, WALZKT, W1ETH, and K1BE. Also there were WBLEMB, WALDCH, and W1DVW. Hope to see you all at the next meeting! 73, Joe

OSL OUTGOING BUREAU

Last month we explained how the incoming OSL bureau worked. Well, the HCRA doesn't run the outgoing section, but you can very easily get it done by the ARRL. As a membership service, all you have to do is put the call sign of the station your sending it to in block letters on the card, wrap them in the OST brown wrapper, enclose a dollar, and send them into the League. Please alphabetize them by first letter, i.e. HA9ZT, HB5TR, I6RTG, etc. Do NOT put rubber bands, or other clips around the cards. It just slows them down. The October 1976 OST lists the countries that cards can be sent to. The address at the league is:

ARRL-Membership Overseas OSL Service

225 Main Street

Newington, Conn 06111

REPEATER EMERGENCIES

The ARRL has recommended that we hams avoid the use of "break, break, break" on repeaters. However, what should we use in its' stead? "MAYDAY", recognized by international treaty, is only suitable in situations where an immediate threat exists to life or property. Most hams do not know the word for the next level of emergency, which is "PAN". Therefore, this would be a poor choice. The third internationally recognized emergency word is "SECURITY". This would also not be understood by most hams, so would be another poor choice.

I would like to suggest the following trilogy. "MAYDAY" for immediate threats to life or property. An example would be a house on fire. "Priority" for a situation that requires an immediate response, but does not involve an immediate threat to life or property. An example would be a traffic accident where no one has been injured.

"EMERGENCY" would be a situation that requires assistance. An example would be calling a tow truck when your car breaks down.

These words used on a busy repeater would get you the attention that you need. "Break, break, break" lacks professionalism.

"Priority" is a quick word that you should be able to squeak in between even the fastest button pushers! (A pause after it has been turned over to you should be S.O.P. on all repeaters.)

As a final thought, when you send a distress call, i.e. "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday". it must be followed by the distress message... "I am declaring an emergency... Our position is... We require, etc..." By international treaty, all stations should give you the frequency when you follow this format. A word to the wise: If you hear a "MAYDAY" or other emergency call, and then find out that the "emergency" is something dumb, like the guy backed his truck into a tree, you still give that station the frequency, until it is declared over. You can lose your license for making comments like "That's no emergency, etc" YOU ARE INTERFERING WITH DISTRESS TRAFFIC! It is NOT up to you to decide what an emergency is. Wait until it is all over to make your comments to the dummy.

With a two minute "time out" on most repeaters, someone can be kept waiting a long time if a windbag has the machine. Try to learn to pause to see if someone requires the machine more than you do. Stand by in an emergency if you can not be of assistance.

We welcome the following new members:

WLSB Terry	Dick Gorski	Carl, WA1ADV	Leo Pauze, Sr.
Bob Roy	Abel Gomes	Fred Stefanick	Leo Pauze, Jr
Al WB1GLZ	Dave Gomes	Bob Wise	Olli WB1CGK
Bob, K1NWE	Doris, K1UOR	Ron Hahn	Phil WB1BPA
Roy Burke	Irv Ser	Dave, WB1BPJ	

Most of these new people have recently passed their novice exam. We now have 165 paid up members!

BOOK REVIEW by WA1PUX

1978 Amateur Radio Equipment Directory by W2TGH Published by Kengore Price \$4.00 207 pages

This book is a compilation of advertisements. There are no reviews, test results, just manufacturer's specifications. This book is nothing more than the ads from QST, 73, CO, etc all in one volume. So before you go out and spend your \$4.00, buy the magazines instead, at least this way you'll get what's in the magazine along with all of the ads.

For Sale: 'Choice item- complete collection of OSTs, 1922 to 1975-54 books. All in standard OST binders. Total weight 350 to 400 pounds. (but easily carried in a car by distributing the weight.) \$400.00 Percy Noble, Bailey Road, P.O. Box 5, Lanesboro, Mass 01237

For Sale: Super Magnum cut for 10 meters Call Fred, 786-6705

For Sale: 1977-1978 set of Zero Beats! 10 issues, complete for \$5.00

For sale: FT-101E, w/ cw filter, fan, manual, speech proc, AC-DC supply mint condx, \$690.00 phone WB1ETS 593 9852, Ron

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'm about to begin my annual trek to the mecca of hamdom, the Dayton convention. Well over 16,000 stalwarts appear like hordes of army ants every April to pour over new/used equipment. I enjoy the chance to see some of the best in equipment and chat with operators from all over. Supper Saturday night will be with the "Nostalgia Exchange" group, those dedicated nuts who restore and operate old equipment. The fun and camaraderie of ham radio is evident for these three days in Ohio. Field Day, auctions, flea markets, and clubs all have the potential to bring out the best in amateur radio. I'll think of you back here in Massachusetts as I dig through 3,000 various tuning knobs trying to find the one I need!

73,
Jeff, K1BE

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ZERO BEAT
issue 5

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC

Next meeting:

Friday, May 5th, 1978 7:00 pm

FLEA MARKET!!!

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

FEEDING HILLS MASS

APRIL MEETING REPORT

After being snowed out in March, everyone made the trek out for our April meeting. A full house, (105+), heard Jay Rusgrove, W1VD, talk about evaluating receiver performance. What really hurt was finding your rig was on the bottom of the list! An interesting and informative talk, and appreciated by the members. W1HHR, John Sullivan, the League New England Division Director, was introduced. Sulli gave a short talk on the League's efforts to protect our linears and callsigns.

Pictures of member's QSL cards tacked to the wall were taken by Bob Orr, W1BPL, for future publication in "QST". A 1978 callbook was awarded to Wes Andrews, from the QSL raffle. Paul Wing won the ARRL book. Gerry Griffin, W1PCT, won the raffle for a '78 handbook. Fran, N1FJ, received a '78 callbook for sending the first correct answer to the crossword puzzle back in December. 2,000 feet of RG8/AU was sold to members for .15¢ a foot. Coffee, soda, and donuts were attacked by hungry hams, and eyeball QSO's commenced. An informative and fun meeting for all!

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES!

See you at the Flea market May 5th...Tom, W1SC0, passed his Extra. He's waiting for his 1X2...ElmerDunscombe, W1ESG, is now a silent key. Elmer was a long time supporter of the HCRA and is missed by his friends... Bob, W1BPL, has been helping out with the novice course at the JCC. If you want to stop in, contact, Jeff, K1BE...Paul, W1ZKT, passed his general. This is a triumph for him, due to his grueling acquisition of 13wpm... The Rochester Hamfest is May 20-21st. If you intend to take an FCC exam there, get your G10 in early. (They might accept walk-ins). If you're interested in car pooling, let us know early...Ron, W1ETS, would like to have Mt. Tom and the HCRA put on a joint Christmas party this year."now's the time to plan it!", says Ron. Rumors have it that he doesn't take down his Xmas tree until August...Get in on the Monday night HCRA 10 meter net. Propagation continues to improve, maybe some night New Zealand will check in...Spread the word about our May 5th Flea Market... Lou, W1DLG, passed his technician...A person who'll remain unnamed recently called the "ZB" editor to complain that they were not getting their issue of "Intermod"... Terry, W1SB, gets to visit the countries most of us can only go to via the airwaves. Ghana, England, Russia are just a few he's been to...Want Ads and promised articles should be sent in early to the June ZB...

TVI COMPLAINT FORM

Here is a sample of the type of letter to send out if you or your neighbor has a Television interference problem:

(Manufacturer's name) _____ (Date)
ATTN: CUSTOMER SERVICE

(Manufacturer's address)

(City, State, Zip)
Gentlemen:
Please send me a Drake TV-300-HP high pass filter for the alleviation of interference from a radio station operating below 54 Mhz. My _____ (brand name)
TV receiver is Model No. _____, Serial No. _____.
I understand that 90% of interference problems require treatment of the TV receiver rather than the transmitting equipment. (Statement to Television Receiver Owner, FCC)
Thank you,

(Your name and address)

The HCRA does not have a TVI/RFI committee because we have never been able to get anyone on it! If you do have a problem, bring it up at a meeting and we'll help. For more information, see February 1978 "QST".

JUNE BANQUET

Traditionally the June meeting is our annual banquet. This is the last meeting of the 1977-78 season, and new club officers will be elected at it. This year's banquet will be really special. It will be held at the Westfield YMCA, 67 Court Street, Westfield, Mass on Friday, June 2nd. A roast beef dinner will be served. Entertainment, awards, door prizes, and other insanities will comprise the evening! A two meter rig valued at \$300.00 will be the main door prize. (Only paid tickets will be eligible to win the main prize.) Many small door prizes will also be there. Gifts and gag presents are solicited from the members. Cost for members will be \$5.00, non-members, \$6.00. A real fine evening is in store for you June 2nd! Plan on being there. Tickets are available from:

JEFFREY J. DUQUETTE, K1BF
P.O. BOX 346
SOUTHWICK, MASS 01077
(S.A.S.E. please!!!! Make checks out for HCRA, Inc.)

WALYYW Rich in Longmeadow K1BUB, Bob in Westfield
WB1BZW, Andy in Feeding Hills N1PF, Norm in Springfield
WB1CJH, Larry in Longmeadow W1KK, Art in Agawam
WALPUX, Bruce in West Hartford WALZEV, Steve in West Hartford
K1YQQ, Chet in Springfield. (He's also at the Ground Round every Friday from 11:30 to 1:30 for the Brown Baggers)

[Only a limited number of tickets are available. NONE WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!

First come, first served.

FIELD DAY- June 24, 25

The HCRA will hold its' Field Day in Otis, Mass, surrounded by the beautiful Berkshire foothills. Members are welcome to attend the HCRA or the Mt TOM FD. MT. TOM's will be located in Holyoke on the mountain by that name, and will be a "Big Event"! Our club FD will be low-key. Food will be provided by the club for free. Non-members will be charged. Sign up ahead of time will be required if you intend to eat supper and breakfast with us. We need chairmen to volunteer to run the various bands, and do the other necessary work. If you accept an assignment, you'll be responsible for getting the operators and people together for that section. Some areas we need help are:

80 meters voice	40 meters voice (K1CYG)	6 meters all
80 meters CW	40 meters CW	2 meters all
20-15-10 voice		
20-15-10 CW	Other bands???	OSCAR

Food/cooking K1RE	Logs, etc (W1RWU)	Portable power W1KK
Flora and Fauna W1APD	Finances W1ZEV	

BEER- W1YYW, W1BZW, K1BUB, W1EIP, W1UKR, W1OWJ, W1BPL, N1PF,

We will need to borrow some tents. If you're a novice or unlicensed club member, come on aboard! We'll teach you what you need to know. A variety of equipment and tasks lay before you. It's also a great way to meet the most active club members. More information will be in the June ZB.

MISC. NOTES

OSCAR 8 is alive and well, and in an orbit lower than OSCAR 7. The "WINDOW" appears overhead at about 9:30 am each day. Listen for its' downlink in Mode A on 28.4-28.5 Mhz...Olli, W1GCK, and George, W1DLH, passed their general. Ron, W1ETS, passed his advanced. Congrats! ...Fred Stefanick, brother of Ed, passed his novice... Larry, W1CJH, gave a complete demonstration of two meter repeaters to the HCRA general class at the JCC. He even went so far as to put in a plug for MTARA membership!...If you'd be interested in a bowling match between the HCRA and the MTARA, contact their new club president, Don, W1UPH... Rumors that Bob, W1MM, is renting a truck to bring goodies to the flea market are probably true...Don, W1BZG, gave a two meter demo to the novice class at the JCC. Very well done, too...The next MTARA meeting is April 24th. W1KK, and W1CJK will give a talk on old time radio. They meet in the Valley Bank in Ludlow at 7:30...One of our club members won't be at the June banquet because he's getting married the next day. What a flimsy excuse!...Olie, K1HYL, moved his QTH back into the boondocks of New Hampshire. Hope you'll keep in touch, Olie...Frank, W1UCB, will soon be sending out new QSL cards...Gary, W1ECR and Frank, W1RWU, have several 80 foot towers up for their ham station. So what do they use for their TV set? You guessed it, a set of worn out rabbit ears lying in the corner... This issue of ZB is being mimeod free by W1KK. If you don't like the mediocre typing and spelling, we'd be delighted to let you help out with the work. And you get paid to do the typing... The HCRA has:

17 novices	25 advanced	20 unknown
11 technicians	19 extras	110+ ARRL members
38 generals	27 unlicensed	165 paid up members

HAM NEWS AND EVENTS

APRIL 29th Framingham ARCFlea Market 10 - 3

MAY 6 SCRAMS Tail-gate Flea Market Ponderosa Campgrounds, rte 161, East Lyme, CT. 8 - ?

MAY 13th- Horse traders Swap Fest, Deerfield N.H. 9 - ?

HORSE-TRADER'S SWAP NET SUNDAYS 4-6pm 3940 khz OCT- APRIL

HCRA FLEA MARKET MAY 5th, FEEDING HILLS CHURCH, FEEDING HILLS MASS 7 to 11 pm.

HAM RADIO AND THE OLYMPICS

The winter Olympics are going to be held in New York State. These will be the Winter sports that are being held at Lake Placid, in 1980. Here is a great opportunity for Ham radio to do its' stuff. And we should be in on the fun, especially as our club call is Whiskey One New York. (Maybe there is a W2NY. It would be great to work both stations from the Olympic site.) Bob, K1BUB is already working on getting this going. K1BE will be there for sure. Are you interested?

Clubs that would like to reprint any articles from Zero Beat should contact Jeff, K1BE for permission. (569-6739)

Nominations for club officers should be sent to Bruce Felper, W1PUX, 24 Mountain View Drive, Wst, Hartford, Conn.

Next month's issue of ZB will contain a neat vertical antenna by W1ZKT; Field Day info; June Banquet program; and a special prize drawing!

P.O. Box 346
Southwick, Mass 01077



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FIRST CLASS MAIL